

~~SECRET~~
CONFIDENTIAL

25X1

12 September 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

SUBJECT: Probable Developments in Iran During the Next Two
or Three Months

1. We believe that a settlement of the oil dispute by negotiation between the UK and Iranian governments is unlikely.

2. The National Front government will probably be able to remain in power, but only by increasingly authoritarian rule; we believe that financial difficulties alone will not cause it to fall.

3. Mossadeq will probably continue in office, and the odds are a little better than even that he will continue to control the National Front. If Mossadeq should die or become incapacitated, Kashani will make a strong bid for leadership.

4. The Tudeh Party will probably be unable to overthrow the government by force. While the odds are also against the Tudeh Party gaining control of Iran by any other means, these odds may shift rapidly, especially if rivalry between National Front leaders becomes more intense and Tudeh takes advantage of the tendency of some National Front leaders to accept Tudeh support in critical situations.

SHERMAN KENT
Assistant Director
National Estimates

25X1

*copy to DB/D
ACJ
Eisenhower
&
Stevenson*

~~SECRET~~